GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COAL AND MINES
LOK SABHA

STARRED QUESTION NO:33
ANSWERED ON:16.07.2002
ILLEGAL MINING BY PRIVATE COMPANIES
RAVINDRA KUMAR PANDEY

Will the Minister of COAL AND MINES be pleased to state:

(a) The number of Coal mines under the Tata Iron and Steel Company Limited (TISCO) at present, location- wise;

(b) whether the Government are aware that certain private companies in coal-mining sector particularly Tata-Iron and Steel Company Limited (TISCO) are involved in illegal mining;

(c) if so, the details thereof;

(d) the norms laid down to check the violation of rules by the private sector, coal mines; and

(e) the steps taken by the Government to check these violations ?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR COAL AND MINES (SHRI RAVI SHANKAR PRASAD)

(a) to (e): A statement is laid on the Table of the House. Statement referred to in answer to parts (a) to (e) of the Lok Sabha Starred Question No. 33 for answer on 16.7.2002 asked by Shri Ravindra Kumar Pandey regarding illegal mining by private companies.

(a): There are seven working mines under the Tata Iron & Steel Company Limited (TISCO),at present. Two are located in West Bokaro area of Hazaribagh District in Jharkhand State and, of the remaining five, one each is located in the Jamadoba, 6 & 7 Pits, Digwadih, Sijua and Bhelatand areas of Dhanbad District in Jharkhand State.

(b) & (c): While complaints have been received regarding illegal mining by certain private sector coal mining companies, further investigations have not proved these to be correct except in one case. No complaint has been received in this Department involving Tata Iron & Steel Company Limited in illegal mining of coal.

(d) & (e): The applicable Acts and Rules provide for detailed procedural requirements and norms relating to mining along with provisions for penalties and punishment for their violation. Complaints received in the Department of Coal involving illegal mining by the private sector companies engaged in coal mining are inquired into by the Department with the assistance of the subsidiary coal company of Coal India Limited (CIL) operating in the area, the Office of the Coal Controller and/or the concerned State Government.